



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

CHICAGO ICE EMPLOYEE RECEIVES DHS SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

CHICAGO—Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge today awarded a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) employee here with one of the first-ever DHS “Secretary’s Awards” for his outstanding service in improving the efficiency of the Chicago ICE Detention and Removals Office (DRO).

At a reception in Washington, D.C. Thursday, Chicago ICE Deportation Assistant Robert Allmon received a Secretary’s Award for Exemplary Service, which recognizes those DHS employees who have demonstrated the highest levels of commitment and performance.

Allmon, who joined Chicago’s DRO program in May 2002, is one of only seven ICE employees nationwide to receive the new Secretary’s Awards. These awards will be presented annually to a select number of the more than 180,000 employees of the Department of Homeland Security.

Allmon’s award is the result of his outstanding efforts in providing administrative support to the nearly ninety detention and removal employees in Chicago. In his two years on the job he has shown initiative by implementing a system to track detained asylum-seekers, improving the efficiency of obtaining travel documents for more than 6,000 aliens deported last year, and streamlining the annual verification process for twenty three local and county jails where aliens are detained.

“Robert deserves this recognition because he consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty, not only to get the job done, but to get it done more efficiently,” said ICE Field Office Director Debbie Achim, who oversees Chicago’s detention and removal operations. “He has taken on responsibilities that were previously assigned to several full-time employees, and his innovative approach and can-do attitude serve as an example for all public servants.”

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.